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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01
	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-03	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	RPE-01	/041W					

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P 281618Z DEC 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5388
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 04612

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, RW
SUBJECT: TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS: THE DEVIL'S IN THE
DETAILS

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REF: KIGALI 4561

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. THE RPF HAS ARRIVED IN KIGALI. UNLESS
THE ISSUES OF COMPETING PARTY LISTS FOR NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES AND OF AN OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE
PRESIDENT ARE RESOLVED, CEREMONIES FOR INSTALLATION
OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE
DELAYED BEYOND THE DECEMBER 29 TARGET. THE PRESIDENT

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SEEKS PARTY COMPROMISES BEFORE FORMING TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS TO AVOID THE RISK OF EARLY COLLAPSE. NEVERTHELESS, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TODAY INVITED THE U.S. AND OTHER MISSIONS TO SEND HIGH-LEVEL "PERSONALITIES" FOR DECEMBER 29 CEREMONIES. NEITHER THE FRENCH NOR THE BELGIANS PLAN A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST; WE SHOULD NOT DO SO EITHER. BELGIAN SOURCES CONFIRM RECENT WEAPONS DISTRIBUTIONS TO CIVILIANS NEAR GISENYI. END SUMMARY.

3. THE RPF IS HERE. HUNDREDS OF CURIOUS ONLOOKERS LINED THE ROADS AROUND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING TO WATCH THE ARRIVAL AT 3 PM TODAY 12/28 OF THE RPF BATTALION AND RPF MEMBERS OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. THEY ARRIVED UNDER UNAMIR ESCORT AND ARE NOW INSTALLED IN THE HOTEL ATTACHED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HALL.

4. PRESIDENTIAL OATH. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS TO YESTERDAY'S MEETING OF "CERTAIN PARTIES" (REFTEL),
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THE PRESIDENT POSED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER HE WAS OBLIGED TO TAKE A NEW OATH OF OFFICE. HE NOTED THAT THE PEACE ACCORD IN ONE ARTICLE SAYS HE IS MAINTAINED THROUGH THE TRANSITION PERIOD. IN ANOTHER IT STATES THE PRESIDENT SHOULD TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE. RUHIGIRA SAID YESTERDAY'S MEETING DID NOT DISCUSS THIS ISSUE. HE TOLD CHARGE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD NO OBJECTION TO TAKING AN OATH OF OFFICE, IF THAT IS WHAT THE PARTIES WANT, BUT HE NOTED THAT IT COULD THROW INTO LEGAL LIMBO THE PRESIDENT'S STATUS BETWEEN AUGUST 4, WHEN THE PEACE ACCORD WAS SIGNED, AND NOW.

5. COMPETING LISTS OF DEPUTIES. THE COMMUNIQUE THAT CAME OUT OF YESTERDAY'S MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND "CERTAIN PARTIES" (REFTEL), STATED THAT PARTY LEADERS SHOULD SUBMIT NAMES OF DEPUTIES FOR THE TRANSITION NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO THE PRESIDENT, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SWEARING IN THE DEPUTIES AND PRESIDING OVER THE FIRST SESSION. PM-DESIGNATE FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU APPARENTLY TOOK ISSUE WITH THE PRESIDENT ON THIS WHEN THEY MET MORNING 12/28. CABINET DIRECTOR AT THE PRESIDENCY, ENOCH RUHIGIRA, TOLD CHARGE THAT FAUSTIN HAD ARGUED FOR THE PRESIDENT TO ACCEPT THE LIST OF MDR DEPUTIES FROM HIM AND FOR

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THE PL FROM MINISTER LANDO. ENOCH SAID THE PRESIDENT WAS DISAPPOINTED IN FAUSTIN FOR THIS APPROACH WHICH WAS NOT A POSITION OF RECONCILIATION. ASKED ABOUT THE MDR LISTS, ENOCH SAID THERE ARE FIVE (OF 11) SEATS THAT ARE CONTESTED BETWEEN THE TWO MDR FACTIONS.

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6. COMPETING LISTS OF MINISTERS. THE COMMUNIQUE FROM YESTERDAY'S PRESIDENT-PARTIES MEETING STATED THAT PARTY LEADERS SHOULD PROVIDE THE NAMES OF MINISTERS TO THE PM-DESIGNATE.

7. PRESIDENTIAL APPEAL. RUHIGIRA CALLED IN THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TODAY AND GAVE HIM AN EXTENDED VERSION OF BRIEF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE. BOTTOM LINE WAS THAT THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO TAKE NO RISKS IN FORMING THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ASSEMBLY. HE DOES NOT/NOT WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PUTTING A CONTESTED GOVERNMENT AND ASSEMBLY IN PLACE THAT COULD QUICKLY COLLAPSE AND THAT MIGHT HAVE NO CREDIBILITY

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WITH THE INTERNATIONAL OR INTERNAL COMMUNITY. ASKED
IF ENOCH WAS SUGGESTING THE PRESIDENT WOULD STALL
UNTIL THE PARTIES ACHIEVED THE INTERNAL COMPROMISE
THAT HAS BEEN ELUDING THEM FOR SIX MONTHS, THE
BELGIAN AMBASSADOR SAID ENOCH HAD INSISTED
INSTALLATION OF THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT WAIT: THE
SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS JANUARY 5; A WORLD BANK/IMF
MISSION IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 15; DIFFICULT
ECONOMIC DECISIONS LIE AHEAD (DEVALUATION), AND THE
COUNTRY IS BANKRUPT. A GOVERNMENT THAT WILL LAST
MUST BE FORMED NOW, ENOCH REPORTEDLY SAID.

8. INVITATION TO CEREMONIES. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
CIRCULATED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE DATED DECEMBER 27
INVITING HIGH LEVEL "PERSONALITIES" TO ATTEND THE
INSTALLATION CEREMONIES ON DECEMBER 29. CHARGE
CONSULTED BOTH FRENCH AND BELGIAN AMBASSADORS WHO
BOTH BELIEVE THE SCHEDULE AND THE CREDIBILITY OF THE
GOVERNMENT ARE TOO UNCERTAIN TO BRING PEOPLE FROM
CAPITALS AT THIS TIME. CHARGE AGREES AND RECOMMENDS,
AGAIN, AGAINST HAVING A WASHINGTON "PERSONALITY" DROP

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EVERYTHING AND HEAD FOR RWANDA. WE SHOULD LOOK FOR ANOTHER WAY TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR THIS SIGNIFICANT EVENT.

9. SECURITY CONCERNS. BELGIAN SOURCES IN GISENYI CONFIRMED OVER THE WEEKEND THAT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PROVIDED THE BOURGMASER OF THE COMMUNE OF KANAMA 100 WEAPONS, SOME LIGHT AND SOME NOT SO LIGHT, WHICH HE IN TURN HANDED OUT TO SECTOR COUNSELORS AND CELLULE AUTHORITIES. THE OSTENSIBLE REASON IS TO
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ALLOW THE COMMUNE TO ORGANIZE COLLECTIVE,
EXTRAORDINARY DEFENSES AGAINST RAMPANT BANDITISM.

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THE BELGIAN SOURCE'S INFORMATION SUGGESTS THAT A
SIMILAR WEAPONS DISTRIBUTION MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN
THREE OTHER COMMUNES NEAR GISENYI, BUT HE HAS NOT
BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS. THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR
TALKED TO RUHIGIRA ABOUT THIS WHO TOLD HIM THE
MINISTER OF DEFENSE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH WEAPONS
DISTRIBUTION.

10. COMMENT. WE HAVE HEARD A POSSIBLE SCENARIO FOR
BREAKING THE IMPASSE OVER MINISTERIAL AND DEPUTY
APPOINTMENTS: FAUSTIN ACCEPTS HIS AND PL/LANDO NAMES
FOR MINISTERS AND LETS THE PL/MUGENZI DEPUTIES PASS.
THIS WOULD KEEP PL MINISTERS EXPECTED TO SIDE WITH
THE MRND, AND WHICH WOULD GIVE THE MRND A BLOCKING
THIRD IF IT CAME TO PASS, OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE
PRESIDENT'S INCLINATION TO AWAIT RESOLUTION OF PARTY
FEUDS, CONTRARY TO TWAGIRAMUNGU'S INTENTIONS, COULD
FOIL SUCH A STRATEGY. REPORTS OF WEAPONS
DISTRIBUTIONS ARE TROUBLING JUST AS THE RPF COMES TO
TOWN.

LEADER

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